

<p align="center">Message Map 3 Audience: Public Date Updated: 1/30/14 Question or Concern: What are the implications of impaired waters listings?</p>		
<p>Key Message 1 States are required to develop pollution reduction plans, known as Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), for each impaired waterbody and pollutant combination on the impaired waters list.</p>	<p>Key Message 2 Before a TMDL is developed, new and existing point source dischargers with a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an impairment are required to have water quality-based effluent limits (WQBELs) equal to the phosphorus criterion of the receiving water.</p>	<p>Key Message 3 Negative perceptions of the impaired waters program include the perceived stigma of an impaired waters designation.</p>
<p>Supporting Fact 1-1 TMDLs set the amount of pollutants a waterbody can receive from identified sources and still meet water quality standards.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 2-1 A discharger's phosphorus loads may be offset through a phosphorus trade or other means with another discharge of phosphorus to the impaired waterbody.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 3-1 Declining property values is a concern for some landowners with properties (particularly lakeshore properties) near impaired waters.</p>
<p>Supporting Fact 1-2 The proposed 2014 listing updates include 137 new waterbody phosphorus listings. Of these, 49 (36%) will be addressed by TMDLs in development.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 2-2 Of approximately 2,400 point source dischargers in the state, only 56 are direct dischargers to newly proposed phosphorus impaired waters.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 3-2 Declining property values can affect individual landowners and economics of entire communities; but with property rights, come property responsibility.</p>
<p>Supporting Fact 1-3 Approximately 15% of the comprehensive listings of impaired waters are currently addressed by existing EPA-approved TMDLs.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 2-3 More than half of these discharges (34) are in areas where TMDLs are actively being developed for phosphorus. For these facilities, phosphorus permit limits would be based on the pollutant load allocations included in the TMDLs.</p>	<p>Supporting Fact 3-3 Policy questions include whether restoring impaired waters generates more benefits than costs and how to distribute the costs equitably. Those who receive economic benefit from the source of the impairment may be more likely to oppose an impaired waters listing.</p>